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NURSERY U-TURN

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Jubilation: Parents celebrated the news that Moor Lane day nursery will not close in September

NURSERY U-TURN

Council reverses decision to close nursery after admission it got child numbers wrong

Parents have expressed their delight at news a popular Chessington nursery will not close, following a Kingston Council u-turn.

Moor Lane day nursery had been due to close in September after the council said it was not legally obliged to run childcare.

But it was forced to back down on Monday when it emerged officers had based the case for closure on inaccurate information about how many families used the nursery.

Mum Gemma Naylor, 35, from Moorfield Road, said she was "ecstatic" after hearing the news.

by JON SHARMAN

jon.sharman@london.newsquest.co.uk

She said: "I am quite amazed because it's a quick turnaround.

"The community fought for a cause so we're very happy. It really brought the parents of the nursery together."

Her son Archie, three, attends the nursery and daughter Ellen, five months, starts there in August.

Hannah McAlpine, 33, from Hemsby Road, said: "It's the best news we've had all week.

"We had a very positive meeting with Edward Davey MP on

Saturday and it's the best outcome we could have hoped for.

"To actually get the decision reversed is amazing, it's certainly beyond what I thought."

Tracy Robins, 34, also from Hemsby Road, said she cried when she heard the news. She said: "I'm pregnant so I'm an emotional wreck anyway.

"We won it for our children and our children are still going to get the care that they received in the first place."

Councillor Patricia Bamford, lead member for children, said she and fellow Chessington Councillor

Rachel Reid were told just 12 families used the nursery, but discovered otherwise when they were confronted by parents.

She said: "We were misinformed at the start of the process. I cannot tell you how or why they [numbers] were not right."

Coun Bamford said the closure decision was reversed to avoid disruption to parents.

She said: "If I'd known then what I know now we would not have gone down this road, or it would have been handled completely differently."

Mother killed – man arrested

A mother formerly from Surbiton has been found killed at her home in Newcastle – while her two children were at school.

The body of Heather Jane Arthur, nee Naylor, was discovered at 11am on Monday at her home in Gosforth, an affluent suburb of the north-east city.

Northumbria Police said the 50-year-old suffered "unexplained injuries".

Originally from the Isle of Wight, Mrs Arthur lived at Bramley Mansions, in Berrylands Road, until 2010 with her partner Mark Arthur and two children, a boy and a girl. She and Mr Arthur were directors of a business called the Deep Blue Project.

A former Bramley Mansions resident said: "We never had any problems with them. We got on all right.

"Heather had moved out while we were still there. That must have been more than three years ago. It is terrible this has happened."

A 49-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of murder on Monday.

Inside

- Fewer victims: Crimes in Kingston at seven-year low page 4
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- London Marry-athon: Runner drops to his knees after 26 miles to propose to girlfriend page 7



- Money wasted?: £500k in council pay-offs revealed page 10



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the Source

'Daring venture' into
improvised live theatre



Ex-Rascal Miles Kane
heading to Kingston's
New Slang



Detection rates fall – but crime is down

by ROSS LOGAN

ross.logan@london.newsquest.co.uk

The percentage of crimes being solved in Kingston is at its lowest in seven years although the overall number of crimes is down, new police figures have revealed.

Detection rates at Kingston police fell to 21 per cent, down 1 per cent on last year, in the latest crime stats published by the Metropolitan Police.

The Metropolitan Police Federation, representing rank and file officers, said four in five crimes remaining unsolved reflected detectives across the capital being overworked.

But the borough commander of the force – the smallest in London – said the number accompanied a drop in crime.

It is the lowest since 2005-06 when the percentage of crimes detected was just 18.9 per cent

The overall number of offences fell by more than 1,000 to 10,192 crimes during 2012-13 with 2,167 "sanctioned detections", compared with 3,418 in 2006-07.

John Tully, chairman of the Metropolitan Police Federation, said "We have got examples of detectives across the Met who have got upwards of 30 cases they are having to investigate. Detectives are having to prioritise to the detriment of some and the advantage of others."

"It does not surprise me detection rates are down but that is not to say detectives are not working their socks off."

Borough commander Detective Superintendent Ian Smith said: "They could be

better." But he added: "We must take into account the reduction targets, which provide us more challenges to increase our detection targets."

"A thousand fewer victims makes it more of a challenge to increase the detection rate."

This year on a key target of solving violent crimes which cause injury, Kingston had cleared up 31 per cent of crimes, down 1 per cent on last year, but set against a drop in crimes of 15 per cent, he said.

The number of robberies detected this year was 14.9 per cent, down from 17.6 per cent in the previous 12 months.

But there were better results for solving residential burglaries, with 13.9 per cent of crimes being cleared up, a small increase on last year.

'Gone back to basics'

The number of crimes in Kingston has fallen by more than 1,000 in the past year.

But burglaries and racially and religiously aggravated crimes rose.

The Metropolitan Police crime figures for 2012-13, show Kingston to have the second lowest number of offences across the force's 32 boroughs.

Rape, robbery and gun crime all declined, with the total number of reported crimes falling to 10,192 – a drop of 1,024 year on year.

But the total number of burglaries rose by 57, to 1,380. Racist and religious hate crimes also rose to 123, compared with 79 in 2011-12.

Borough commander Ian Smith said he was "over the moon" about the overall drop.

He said: "We have gone back to basics in Kingston."

"We tackle the offender, not the offence. The burglars are the robbers are the shoplifters."

He also praised the work of Kingston's 282 neighbourhood watch schemes.

Crimes over the years

Year	Total offences	Crimes solved
2012-13	10,192	2,167
2011-12	11,227	2,492
2010-11	11,150	2,570
2009-10	11,012	2,789
2008-09	11,297	3,123
2007-08	12,276	3,257
2006-07	13,105	3,418
2005-06	15,141	2,861

Horrific injuries to dog sees owner given ban

A woman whose dog was found with a severed and bloodied tail has been banned from keeping animals for five years.

Nicola Baker, 40, from Worcester Park, was found guilty under the Animal Welfare Act at Laver Hill Magistrates' Court on Monday, April 15.

Bluey, a Staffordshire bull-terrier, was seen with

a raw wound and her tail severed to a six-inch stump.

She was also extremely underweight and covered in bite marks believed to be caused by two other dogs.

RSPCA inspector Heather Morris said: "The poor little thing was in a pretty bad way and in a lot of pain."

"The stump, which had been her tail, was raw and covered in blood."

"How anyone could stand by and let them go untreated is beyond me."

"It is an offence under the Animal Welfare Act for the person responsible for an animal not to get treatment for him or her."

Bluey is now in RSPCA care and is ready to be homed.



Severed tail and bite marks: Bluey is now in RSPCA care

 Read more stories at
kingstonguardian.co.uk

Man bumps into police with stash of stolen loot

A serial shoplifter who was caught with 76 items from Poundland during his getaway has been sentenced to four weeks in prison.

William O'Leary, 34, from north London, bumped into police officers with a trolley full of bathroom toiletries in High Street, New

Malden, on March 7.

He had managed to flee the shop, but was spotted by officers responding to a separate incident.

O'Leary was charged with one count of theft from a shop when he appeared at Laver Hill Magistrates' Court on Thursday, April 18.



Giving it some stick

Magic our Morris: Dancers mark St George's Day

Kingston Morris dancers celebrated St George's Day with our best loved folk tradition.

Kingston Morris and Spring Grove Morris Men presented a jig at the George and

Dragon pub in Thames Ditton, and an £800 cheque to the British Heart Foundation.

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Fun: Lamblord Adam Lewis, Robin Hutchinson and Kerplunk World Champion Phil Snell play giant Kerplunk KT67619

Giant games come to town for May Merrie day of play

by HANA HAUSMEISTER

hana.hausmeister@london.newsquest.co.uk

Primary schoolchildren took inspiration from the mighty All Blacks during clapping workshops in preparation for the May Merrie.

Themed the "Day of play", the event will convert the town centre into a giant games table on Monday.

Kerplunk in Eden Street and magnetic fishing in Eagle Brewery Wharf will join maypole dancing, circus workshops, music and markets.

Earlier this month the organisers drummed up interest by creating a fictional mythical chess piece linked to Anglo-Saxon kings.

This year's event has seen organisers visiting schools across the borough to teach children about old-time play and making music.

Charlotte Robson, speaking

for the organisers, said: "We have harked back to a lot of traditional games, and one of the games that all of the organisers remembered were clapping games."

They used the All Blacks' Haka and Polynesian voice rhythms to teach children about different forms of music.

It will lead up to a big clapping game at the May Merrie, where the students will perform.

They visited their first school, Corpus Christi Catholic School, on Friday, and will be visiting St John's, St Andrew's and St Mark's this week.

Miss Robson said: "The children had a

really great time. We have got lots of people looking forward to it."

The event has appeared in Time Out London's top 10 family friendly events over the bank holiday weekend

this year.

Full event rundown at kingstonguardian.co.uk



Fairies: Eliza Galorosso and Lennie Nova

Deadlinepix KT64954



All a game: Joshua Hamlet Clarke and a hungry hippo

Deadlinepix KT58832

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Fill up at first food festival

Food-lovers will soon be served up a plate of delights at the first ever Surbiton Food Festival.

The inaugural event will bring together farmers, traders and chefs to offer residents a sample of the borough's best produce.

Celebrating fresh, home-grown food, the festival will kick off on Saturday with the "Edible town" project, encouraging residents to grow their own vegetables in pallets and cover the town in plantlife.

The fortnight continues with the Freshwater Sardine Festival.

The imagined legend of freshwater sardine fishing on the Thames will be brought to life with live music and a parade.

Coffee connoisseurs can have a taste of the good life with a free brew in Ewell Road during the week.

There will also be cocktail classes at Rubicon on Maple Road.

Residents are invited to buy a



Food: Farmers' market

food passport, filled with special offers from all the stalls and traders taking part, to make the most of the event.

Highlights

- Saturday, May 4 – The Big Plant – YMCA, Victoria Road, noon to 3pm
- Sunday, May 5 – Seething Freshwater Sardine Festival – Claremont Gardens, 1pm to 6pm
- Saturday, May 11 – Surbiton Village Fete and Dry Hopped Beer Festival – St Andrew's Square, noon to 7pm
- Sunday, May 12 – Surbiton Village Fete and Dry Hopped Beer Festival – St Andrew's Square, noon to 5pm
- Saturday, May 18 – Surbiton's Farmer's Market – Maple Road, 9am to 1pm; Surbiton Sports Day – Victoria Recreational Ground, 1pm to 4pm
- Sunday, May 19 – The Big Brunch – throughout Surbiton

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Pair retire to enjoy the fringe benefits

Family hairdressers who have worked in Tolworth for more than 40 years have retired.

Barrington John Bradley, known as Barry, 64, and his wife Sue, 59, packed up shop on April 5, after a long career at J Barrie hairdressers in the Broadway.

The name of the barber came from a former business partner.

Mr Bradley said: "We have been there for 43 years and we thought that was enough really. We had never had a week off work or anything."

He said their clients were sad to see them go.

Carol Miller, from Worcester Park, said: "Sue and Barry took great delight in seeing the enjoyment of others."

Mr and Mrs Bradley met

by HANA HAUSMEISTER

hana.hausmeister@london.newsquest.co.uk

while working as hairdressers in Cheam Village. They found love while working together and will celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary this year.

They have no big plans for their retirement but said they would enjoy having more free time.

Mr Bradley said: "We like our home, we like our garden. We can just do what we want now, but we can do it when we want. We just had two weeks off, which have been absolutely lovely."

"We will miss our clients most because we have been there so long we not only know them but their daughters,

their sons. We have cut their hair, their children's hair, their grandchildren's hair.

"You get to know people so much when you are in that sort of business. You know all their sorrows and all their pains.

"And also you have people's happiness and you get to share in that. It is a very personal business. It is not like selling washing machines.

"Some of our clients are friends now. It is not as if we are not going to be in touch with all of them. Some of our clients said to us it was like our front room. It was like a home. We knew everybody by their first names."

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Hanging up their scissors: Barry and Sue Bradley
Deadlinepix KT75748



Foodie fun Father 'sent abusive postcards after son's benefits cut'

Kingston Food Festival organisers are calling on businesses, charities and foodies to get involved this summer.

The town centre will have stalls and entertainment between August 5 and August 11.

Visit [kingstonfoodfestival.com](#) or call 01273 418482.

An aggrieved father accused of branding a woman a "brown-nosed deviant tart" after his son's benefits were stopped, appeared in court last week.

Martin Hewstone, 68, is accused of sending a series of abusive postcards and

emails to Kingston employees of Ixion Holdings, which helps unemployed people find work.

He denied harassment without violence and sending indecent/offensive messages between July 1 and October 19.

Within the postcards, Mr Hewstone branded Sarah Goodheart, who works in the company's Kingston office, "tubs" and "fat face", Wimbledon Magistrates' Court heard.

Mr Hewstone, who lives in Vicarage Road,

Twickenham, began his correspondence after his son Daniel Hewstone's benefits were cut after he did not attend the required meetings.

When arrested, Mr Hewstone said he was not concerned about being charged for harassment and said he

would keep sending postcards, the court was told.

The defence was due to make its case on June 26 after the matter was adjourned for a legal reason.

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Still in the dark: Dismissed doctor fails in Freedom of Information bid to get answers

A doctor dismissed from his post at Kingston Hospital said he had reached a "brick wall" after a long fight to uncover why he was sacked.

Dr Robin Roberts used the Freedom of Information Act to try to force the release of the details around his 2006 dismissal, but lost an appeal after the hospital refused.

In October 2007 a tribunal said the disciplinary action leading to Dr Roberts's sacking was "deliberate and calculated" and Kingston Hospital had disregarded "fundamental principles of fairness".

Dr Roberts, 55, who lives and practises in Wimbledon, said he had no money left to take further legal steps.

He said: "We have looked at it from almost every angle and every time we have met a brick wall.

"It has been a huge distraction away from what I am meant to be doing, which is providing a service for patients."

He said the amount of money the hospital had spent contesting his claim was "enormous".

He said: "It is coming straight out of healthcare resources."

The case has had a major effect on his life, professionally and personally, Dr Roberts said.

He said: "I found myself, in 2008, unemployable locally – if you throw enough mud some will stick.

"We have had to move out of our house and rent that out. You name it. We have had to cut the cloth, so to speak.

"Obviously having a private clinic is the main reason I have remained afloat, but my referral business has all but disappeared now.

"In private practice one depends on a steady stream of referrals.

"One has to try to look at strategies for redeveloping that, but in the current market that is very difficult.

"I have not been on the scene for so long now that many GPs assumed I had retired."

A Kingston Hospital spokesman said: "Dr Roberts' personnel file was given to his lawyers in 2007 and this information would not have been disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act as the Section 40 (1) exemption does not allow personnel information to be made available.

"However, this information could be disclosed under the Data Protection Act 1998."

Confused: Dr Robin Roberts has unsuccessfully fought to find out why he was sacked



London marry-thon ends with finish line proposal

by NAZIA DEWJI

ndewji@london.newsquest.co.uk

This was the moment a London marathon runner passed the finishing line, marched over to his injured girlfriend before dropping down on one knee and asking her to marry him.

Surbiton couple Steve Molloy and Sarah Jenkins, both 36, were both set to run the London marathon together, but Miss Jenkins was left a cheering spectator in crutches after she fractured her hip while training.

But the market researcher was in for a big surprise when her boyfriend of nearly seven years crossed the finishing line after three hours and 27 minutes only to pop the question half an hour later.

Miss Jenkins said: "I wasn't exactly expecting it because the day was meant to be all about him."



Big question: Steve Molloy, during the race, inset and proposing to Sarah Jenkins

"I think I asked him if he was being serious. I was surprised that he did it in front of everyone."

"It was all very surreal. He

asked my dad for permission there and then."

"He gave him about 30 seconds notice. I am currently wearing Claire's Accessories

finest ring until we go shopping."

Mr Molloy, who works as an engineer, said: "It was an emotional day and I wanted to make her happy."

"The whole family were down so it was good timing."

"There was a lot of disbelief, tears and shock, but I had planned it and had a plastic ring ready – that is, if I was able to get down on one knee after the running."

Mr Molloy took part in the marathon to raise money for Bowel Cancer UK, after his aunt died of the illness and his mother recovered from it.

He will also be taking part in Ride London 100 in August and L'Etape Du Tour, a stage at the Tour de France for amateur cyclists.

After the proposal the couple celebrated their engagement at a pub with friends and family but are yet to set a date for the wedding.

Tweet of the week



Shelling out: Pupils saw the chicks hatch on a webcam

Nine out of 10 chicks hatched live on a webcam over two nights, to the delight of students and staff at Surbiton High School.

Students flocked to watch

the eggs that were part of an Easter project.

The school will hold a naming competition costing 50p to enter, with the money going to Oxfam.

Students fish soldier's helmet out of River Thames

A 1950s soldier's helmet was fished out of the Thames when Kingston University students took part in an underwater clean up at the weekend.

Groups of students donned wet suits when they plunged into the Thames by Kingston Bridge on Sunday.

Piles of rubbish including 82 trolleys, skateboards, a full bottle of red wine, a helmet and even a duvet were among the items pulled out by more than 20 volunteers.

The activity had been organised by the Kingston University Students' Union following a successful clean up of the Thames last year.

Jemma Houghton, volunteer co-ordinator at the students' union, said: "There is an awful lot of rubbish in the Thames."

"It was a really long and exhausting day. We were constantly pulling stuff."

Charity Thames 21 supported the event as did the Environment Agency.



Junk: The student team with some of the trolleys KT75645

Silence storm

Kingston and Surbiton Conservatives have criticised the mayor's decision not to allow a minute's silence at a full council meeting on the eve of Baroness Thatcher's funeral.

The Conservatives asked for the silence as a mark of respect for the former British Prime Minister, but this was not granted at the Guildhall meeting on April 16.

Andrew Bessant, head of corporate governance at Kingston Council, said the silence was denied to avoid politicising the issue.

He said: "Unfortunately the decision is being portrayed as a lack of impartiality on the part of the mayor."

□ Letters – page 14.

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dentures and want to avoid them. Our patients comment on how confident they feel after the procedure, knowing their teeth will not fall down or worse, fall out, during a conversation. The treatment means that patients can taste their food again...they have their palate back! The clinic receives numerous patients who were putting off having dentures and living in misery with painful teeth but are now pain free and happy, in some cases happier with their new smile than they were with their original smile!

Visit www.thedentureandimplantclinic.co.uk and read the success stories, you will be amazed!

Teeth being secured in the mouth



The clinic have a highly experienced and dedicated team, and each team member plays a part in ensuring the care the patient receives is an enjoyable experience. The Denture and Implant Clinic has its own dental laboratory on site. Patients will also be encouraged to bring in photographs of when they had their own teeth, and those photos are used during the reconstruction of the final bridge to perfectly replicate the smile that the patient once had.

Smile Advisor, Jennie Baker at The Denture and Implant Clinics says, "This really is an amazing new technique that will change people's lives. Living with 'False teeth' can

be upsetting and difficult. Over the years we have encountered every conceivable problem patients endure, but this new fixed procedure allows patients to forget they ever wore dentures, leaving them free to enjoy their lives and have the confidence that we offer - a 100% guarantee with all our treatment!"

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Call today to book a Free Audit with our smile advisor on 0203 627 5689 or call 0800 381 1371 (Pin 2452) to request a Free success Kit which will be posted out immediately. You can also request your success kit at www.suttodontures.co.uk

A fully refundable £25 booking fee will be requested to avoid surgery time being wasted **Terms and conditions apply** Although rare, this procedure is not suitable for everyone so the clinic invite you in for a Free Smile Audit – If suitable a CT Scan will be required at the cost of £150 which will be deducted from the implant fee at the time of placement

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**Subject to availability. Each course will only run if 20 or more learners enrol.

Borough's top cop to step down

Kingston police borough commander Ian Smith has announced he is retiring this summer after just three months in the top job.

Detective Superintendent Smith, who only took over the role from Martin Greenslade in January, said his decision was to avoid "uncertainty" over his future while the Metropolitan Police discusses whether to implement regulation A19 – a power allowing a force to retire officers after 30 years of service.

D Supt Smith, who joined Kingston police from

by **ROSS LOGAN**

ross.logan@london.newsquest.co.uk

Southwark in January 2012, handed in his notice two months ago, but has only now gone public with the news.

His last day will be Friday, June 7.

D Supt Smith, 47, said: "I have had quite a colourful and varied career, which I have thoroughly enjoyed and I do not regret any of it."

"There is some uncertainty about police officers who have got 30 years' service."

"That means once you have

reached 30 years of service, it is an option for the Met Police to dispose of your services."

"There are no proposals to do that now, but there are discussions."

"I thought it was honourable and best for the borough not to have that uncertainty and to ensure there was continuity over the next two years."

"I have given sufficient notice for a replacement to be found before my last day of work on Friday, June 7."

"That said, there will be continuity of leadership of

Kingston police as the senior management team are still here and will be for the foreseeable future."

D Supt Smith joined the Met as a police cadet in 1982, at the age of 17. He spent the vast majority of his career in CID, where he worked as a senior investigator.

In 2004, he led the investigation into the killing of Tae Hui Dalton, whose dismembered body was discovered in a chest freezer at her home in Kingston.

Follow this story at
kingstonguardian.co.uk



Retiring: D Supt Ian Smith

All hail to the ales

Beer-lovers in the borough raised cash for the Down's Syndrome Association at the fourth Hook Beer Fest.

The event was put on by volunteers from the 1st Hook scout group at their headquarters in Verona Drive, Surbiton, last Friday and Saturday.

It featured dozens of real ales and ciders and drew more than 700 visitors over the two days.

Organiser and scout leader Neil McLean said: "It was great. The numbers were up from last year and every year we are getting bigger."

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Improvements see threatened bar stay open

A late-night bar has struck a deal with Kingston Council to improve its security after being threatened with losing its licence.

Barcardia, opposite Oceana in Clarence Street, survived a licensing review brought by the Metropolitan Police, after a surprise inspection in February found several shortcomings with the venue's management.

But at Guildhall on Thursday, the management agreed a 23-point plan with Kingston's licensing subcommittee to improve its safety.

Officers from Kingston's environmental health department joined police on a late-night visit

to the bar on February 23, where they found the venue over capacity and with door staff unable to say how many people were inside.

They also found licence holder Huseyin Sanli smoking in an office, and a poorly kept incident log.

As part of the plan, Barcardia agreed to buy a £5,000 ID scanner – the same machines used by Oceana – which will be employed every evening door security is required.

The bar also pledged to hire door staff registered with the Security Industry Authority.

The management – which

denied being over capacity – was also praised by environmental health officers at the hearing for responding quickly to the findings.

New bar manager Hana Won said: "We are very pleased with the outcome of the hearing and look forward to continue improving."

Councillor Andrew Day, who was on the licensing committee, said: "It was a case of provided they got the ID scanner and the new door staff, we felt it was reasonable."

The latest local news at
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Behind bars: Robert Ampomah, 26, Ricky Turner, 25, and Jonathan Cope, 35, smashed their way into a branch of Santander; the robbery was caught on CCTV, right

'Dangerous' trio jailed

by NAZIA DEWJI

ndewji@london.newsquest.co.uk

A gang who attacked a courier with a hammer and smashed into a New Malden bank have been given prison sentences.

At Kingston Crown Court, Ricky Turner, 25, Robert Ampomah, 26, Jonathan Cope, 35, all from Peckham, admitted conspiring to commit robbery.

The three men followed a G4S cash in transit van in New Malden High Street, on January 10 last year at about 9.25pm.

Two of the robbers smashed open the windows of Santander bank and used a claw hammer to hit the courier.

They jumped into a stolen Vauxhall Insignia, taken from New Malden in November 2011, with £16,140 in cash.

The torched remains of the

getaway car were found in Sheephouse Way, Old Malden, later that evening.

But the men dropped some of the money, a thinsulate glove and a piece of stocking outside Santander. Another glove, another piece of the stocking and Ampomah's DNA were later found on torched items in Sheephouse Way.

They were also sentenced for a series of other robberies across the south of England, where they stole more than £68,000.

Turner was jailed for eight years, Ampomah for seven years and Cope for 10 years.

Detective Constable Morrey said three dangerous men were

now behind bars.

He said: "These were violent armed robberies during which innocent members of staff were terrorised and genuinely feared for their lives. Anyone who is willing to inflict such fear for their own gain deserves to spend a significant amount of time behind bars."

"These men now face considerable jail terms where they will have plenty of time to think about the consequences of their actions."

A spokesman for Santander said: "We are just glad the courier was not injured more seriously and that he is well on the way to a full recovery."

"The safety of the people who provide cash delivery services to Santander is of utmost importance to us."

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£500k in council pay-offs revealed

Kingston Council has paid out more than £500,000 in settlements to former employees in the last five years.

A total of 10 senior managers have left the borough's employ with pay-offs since 2008, including four who left by "mutual agreement" and signed contracts forbidding them from speaking about their jobs or reasons for leaving.

by ROSS LOGAN

ross.logan@london.newsquest.co.uk

They include former director of children's services Duncan Clark, who quit Kingston in 2012 with a year's salary of £128,625 – days before the damning Ofsted report into child protection was made public. In the same year, another manager left with a £36,000 pay-off.

The other six received payments as part of a redundancy package. Ten other senior managers left or retired without additional payments.

In total, the council paid £506,236 to former employees. The figures were released by the council following a Freedom of Information request.

Kingston resident Jonathan Isaby, political director of the

TaxPayers' Alliance, said: "Of course staff who are made redundant are entitled to payment, but the council needs to ensure they are not excessive."

"Residents should be worried about the use of compromise agreements, which are tantamount to gagging orders."

"These deals go against the principle of openness."

Kingston Council leader

Derek Osbourne said he thought it was likely the four settlements contained non-disclosure agreements.

He said: "I imagine these are people we have dismissed and took us to a tribunal."

"What we do as a rule of thumb is if somebody is claiming unfair dismissal, we try and settle a package that is cheaper than the cost of an industrial tribunal."

Pay-offs: 2008-13

- **2008-9:** Two redundancies – payments of £50,643 and £48,650
- One "mutual agreement" (payment of £60,000 in settlement)
- **2009-10:** One redundancy – £55,928; One mutual agreement – £30,000
- **2010-11:** Two redundancies – £39,180 and £42,082
- **2011-12:** No redundancies and none left by mutual agreement
- **2012-13:** One redundancy – £15,125; Two mutual agreements – £128,625 and £36,000



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KEMPTON PARK
The Jockey Club

Briefly

THE BIG LEAP: A group of Kingston solicitors has raised £5,000 for a children's charity by leaping from a plane at 12,000ft. Thirteen staff from Colemans, based in High Street, skydived in support of the Children's Trust Tadworth last Saturday. The trust supports children with brain injury and multiple disabilities, and their families.

HEALTH ROLE: The leader of Kingston Council has been called up to a new health panel by the Mayor of London. Councillor Derek Osbourne was appointed member of the new Health Board for London, which aims to champion health needs across the capital.

MAKING A MOVE: Kingston Green Radio has been off the airwaves while it relocated. The radio station previously broadcast from the Kingston Environment Centre in Fairfield East, but has been given a temporary lease by Kingston Council. The station will now broadcast from the Fountain Youth Centre in Kingston Road, New Malden, when it is up and running.

MORE PLASTIC: Binsmen collected 30 tonnes more plastic for recycling each month than last year.

The new average figures come after more types of plastic waste were accepted for recycling.

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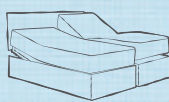
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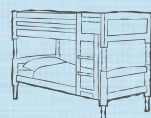


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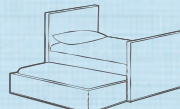
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Council's surfing habits revealed

Full cost a secret

by HANA HAUSMEISTER

hana.hausmeister@london.newsquest.co.uk

A QPR fan with a passion for fencing and tobacco – could this be the profile of your average Kingston Council worker?

In a list of the top 500 websites visited by council employees, Google was the top site, with 17,083 hits between January 23 and April 10 this year.

The most unusual websites to make the list were tobacco fan-site **rollingsupreme.com** and two fencing retailers, **swordpricefighters.com** and **leonpaul.com**.

A spokesman for the council said many websites were visited for work reasons and were not all for personal use.

The low numbers of visits may reflect the increase in internet ready mobile phones that can surf the web without logging on to the council computer system.

Facebook is the second most visited site, with an average of 48 hits a day.

But the workers are not as keen on Twitter, which had an average of only 20 hits a day.

And while they may be a council of sporting fans judging by the Olympic cycling, the only football team that made the list was QPR, with



Sport fans: Fencing retailers were some of the more unusual sites visited

132 hits, including the official team page and a video streaming sub-section.

For entertainment, council workers visited BuzzFeed, a gossip news site, an average of twice a day.

An online radio station, **upchucky.org**, had nine hits, and they also stumbled once on games website **wow-europe.com**.

Workers shopped online with **johnlewis.com**, women's clothes store

punkyfish.com and **hotelchocolat.com**, and visited **ebay.co.uk** an average of twice a day.

The council's favourite website for news was **bbc.co.uk**, with an average of 30 hits a day, followed by **newsnow.co.uk** with 20 hits a day.

The least visited news website was the Guardian, with 11 hits from January to April, while the Independent and the Sun did not even

make the list.

A council spokesman said: "The council, like most businesses and organisations, allows reasonable personal use of the internet provided employees follow guidelines designed to ensure that we get the benefits of the technology while maintaining security and good practice."

More stories at kingstonguardian.co.uk

Number of hits

Google	17,083
Facebook	2,622
newsnow.net	1,902
Lexisnexis	1,872
learningpool.com	1,696
bbc.co.uk	1,661
Twitter	1,132
Kingston Guardian	1,101
wikimedia.org	1,042
Trading Standards	935

The full cost to the taxpayer of the new Surbiton Health Centre is being withheld "to prevent commercial competitors getting an upper hand on the NHS".

The project, which includes the health centre and Lime Tree Primary School, cost £15m to build and was paid for by a third-party investor, as part of a Lift scheme, similar to a private finance scheme (PFI).

The NHS is leasing the land back on a 30-year contract, but the amounts and arrangements of the total amount to be paid back are still being withheld from the public.

A public version of the business case, approved by NHS Kingston in June 2010, said the revenue consequences of the new health-care facility were within its "affordability envelope".

Edward Davey, Kingston and Surbiton MP, said: "The overall sum we pay back is likely to be more than £15m, but that is what you expect."

Kingston Hospital will have to pay £66m by 2037 for its £33m PFI surgical centre, excluding the £266m for cleaning, catering, portering and security in the deal.

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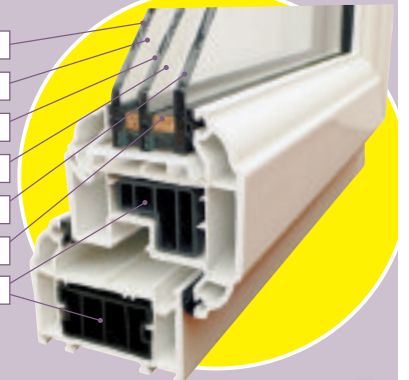
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Time to change your mattress?

Most people sleep on it and pay the price.

A tired mattress can leave you feeling just as tired too



By Sandra Haynes

Is your mattress over 7 years old, saggy or just not as comfortable as it used to be? Putting off replacing it can lead to disturbed sleep, morning tiredness, stiff neck and back ache. In fact, it's the main reason for lack of sleep for most people – they just don't realize it.

Buying a new mattress might seem like an expense you can manage without but it's one of the most valuable things you can do to improve your health and general well being.

What happens to your old mattress over time?

The main problem is deteriorating support. Over time, the springs inside your mattress lose their firmness so they start to sag under your weight. Eventually they become so weakened they retain your shape creating dips

and hollows across the surface of the mattress. It's this unevenness and lack of support that causes the body to toss and turn during the night. The lumpier it gets the more disturbed sleep you're likely to get.

The benefits of a new mattress to you

You'll literally notice the difference overnight! From the moment you lie on it to when you wake up in the morning, a new mattress will transform your whole body and your mood too.

- You'll sleep better for longer
- Fall asleep quicker and easier
- Wake up feeling far more refreshed
- Aches and pains will simply fade away
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Online: All your letters in full online at kingstonguardian.co.uk/yoursay/letters


Pastors working to keep town safe into early hours

It was reported that Luminar was hoping to sponsor Street Pastors Kingston (SPK) and that it would be working with Street Pastors to "extend patrols throughout the town centre".

Although it is true Luminar is looking to sponsor SPK and we welcome its support, alongside McCluskys and JD Wetherspoon, we would like to emphasise our teams do

already cover the whole town centre – and then some.

SPK launched in December 2005 and has been on the streets of Kingston town centre since June 16, 2006, covering all the night-time venues from 10pm until 4pm, (our latest time out was until 5.30am), on Fridays and Saturdays.

Our brief is to help, listen and care for vulnerable

people in those hours, so far putting in 16,560 hours, speaking to more than 23,000 people and being involved in 1,369 situations.

SPK is delighted to be working with the police, door staff, taxi marshals, paramedics, Kingston First and the venues to keep our young people safe at night.

All the team are volunteers and, as such, are all heroes,

giving their time to Kingston and its visitors at a time when most of Kingston sleeps.

If you want to find out more you could visit kingston.streetpastors.org.uk and donate, post a photo or leave a comment.

PAUL JACOBS
Co-ordinator
Kingston Street Pastors

Minute's silence is right way to pay our respects

As I understand it the public office of mayor is strictly non-political and represents all the people in the borough.

The mayor's personal views are private and not public in the year of office because mayors represent all residents they have the honour of serving.

Would the current mayor of Kingston, elected by the ruling Liberal Democrat party, explain why she refused a minute's silence at the last council meeting to show a mark of respect for a former Prime Minister.

Some of the people of this borough are Labour, Lib Dem, Conservative, UKIP, independent and others. None of this should matter. The mayor represents them all.

Respect is due to everyone in death no matter if they are a murderer, terrorist or simply an enemy of the nation.

Someone loved them and proper respect should have been shown.

Utterly disgraceful action by a public office mayor.

R BATSON
Kingston

An impersonal service

It does not take a genius to work out if you put four GP surgeries into Surbiton Hospital and only have one receptionist answering the phone for all of them, no one is going to get through.

My GP surgery used to be small, friendly, caring and close to where I live. Everyone knew everyone else and the phone was answered quickly by someone who

knew who my GP was.

Surbiton Hospital looks nice – all shiny and new, but it is big, cold, impersonal, unfriendly, uncaring, further away from where I live, and a complete shambles.

I wish my GP surgery would move out and back to its old premises.

NANNETTE HERBERT
Surbiton

Chaplain's words were more appropriate tribute

I am responding to the open letter [on the Conservative's website] to the mayor, Councillor Mary Heathcote, from the chairman of the Kingston and Surbiton Conservative Association.

Thought was given well ahead of the April council meeting to the fact the meeting took place the day before the funeral of Baroness Thatcher.

Recognising there would be different viewpoints among those who would be

in the council chamber on the night, the conclusion was reached that it would not be appropriate to call for a minute's silence, but that, instead, the mayor's chaplain would say some appropriate words in his opening remarks.

On the afternoon of the council meeting an email was received from Coun Howard Jones, leader of the Conservative group, asking whether the mayor would be having a minute's

silence that evening.

Coun Jones was advised the mayor was not proposing to request a minute's silence, but that the chaplain would make reference to Baroness Thatcher's passing in his remarks at the beginning of the meeting.

This was done admirably by the chaplain on the night, who discussed what he was proposing to say with the mayor ahead of the meeting.

It is unfortunate the

absence of a minute's silence at the council meeting is being portrayed as a lack of impartiality on the part of the mayor.

In point of fact it was precisely because the mayor wanted to avoid the issue being politicised that the approach that was agreed upon was taken.

ANDREW BESSANT
Kingston Council
Head of corporate governance

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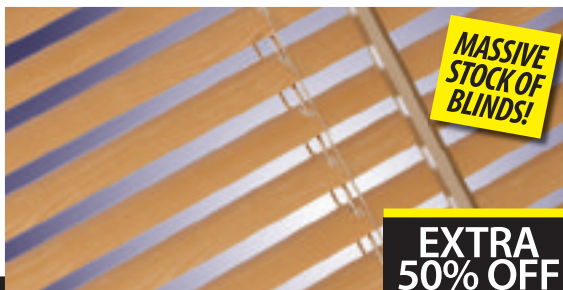
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OF GREAT WORTH

Two of Kingston's most promising musical acts will share the bill at a band night next week.

Rockers Blind Man Cain and acoustic singer-songwriter Tom Worth both appear at the Grey Horse's Sikosis Band

Night on Wednesday, May 8. Blind Man Cain formed in 2010 and draw influence from everyone from the Beatles to Pantera.

Former Pub Factor winner Tom Worth started

out as a busker before forming the Tom Worth Band and has built up an impressive catalogue of soulful acoustic rock tunes.

Also on the bill are Austrian indie outfit Sen Lotus and three-piece the Bulletproof Bomb.

● **Sikosis Band Night;** the Grey Horse, Richmond Road, Kingston; May 8, 8pm; £2; visit grey-horse.co.uk.



TOM WORTH

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Duo: Jeana Leslie and Siobhan Miller



An award-winning folk duo will delight fans with traditional tones and contemporary music at the Ram Club.

Jeana Leslie and Siobhan Miller won the BBC Young Folk Award in 2008 and have been touring the UK and Europe with two albums.

They both graduated from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, where they first met and formed the duo.

The band features

the musical talents of Leslie – who plays the fiddle, Hardanger fiddle and piano, and performs with Irish band Cara – and the vocals of Miller, a competition winner since she was 13 years old.

Miller also appeared in Broadway musical Peter and Wendy in 2011.

They will play alongside Aaron Jones on guitar and bouzouki. He has played with Old Blind Dogs and the Kate Rusby Band.

● **Jeana Leslie and Siobhan Miller** with Aaron Jones; the Ram Club, Portsmouth Road, Thames Ditton; May 10, 8.30pm; £10 members, £11 guests; call 020 8686 9421, visit theramclub.co.uk.

MEET JOE EGG



A DAY IN THE DEATH OF JOE EGG

● Rose Theatre, High Street, Kingston; until May 18, various times; £8 to £28.50, concessions £13 to £25.50; rosetheatrekingston.org

Fun with FIDDLES

Fresh off the back of some rave reviews, *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg* opened this week at the Rose Theatre, writes Ross Logan.

Bosses at the Kingston venue will be hoping the latest revival of Peter Nichols' 1967 black comedy, about two parents struggling to care for their severely disabled daughter, will prove a similar hit to its predecessor, *Smack Family Robinson*, which broke box-office records during its opening weekend earlier this month.

And judging by critics' and audiences' responses so far, *Joe Egg* could indeed prove a worthy replacement for *Smack's* runaway success.

The play has garnered widespread acclaim since opening at the Liverpool Playhouse at the beginning of April.

The Guardian's Alfred Hickling gave the play four stars, with particular praise reserved for director Stephen Unwin,

designer Simon Higlett and stars Ralf Little and Rebecca Johnson.

The Independent made it its play of the week, while the Financial Times named *Joe Egg* its theatre critics' choice.

The reaction has been equally positive on Twitter.

Rose chairman Robert O'Dowd said: "This is absolutely a revival of a classic 60s play. I am very excited about it because it is the first proper co-production of my regime, as such. I think it is a very good re-freshed production of it. "It is quite a full-on play and everyone should be aware that it is in some ways darker than *Smack Family Robinson*."

Clearly, expectations of *Joe Egg* are high – not least when you consider Unwin, the Rose's artistic director, has publicly stated he took inspiration from his own experiences of caring for his disabled son when directing the play.

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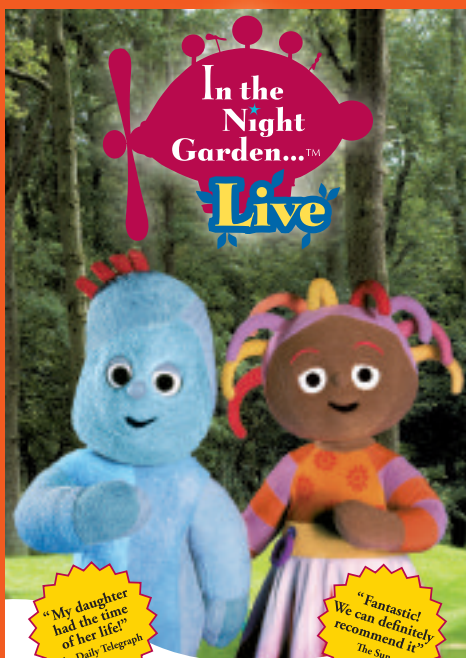
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Don't bid too low if you really want that home

If you have fallen in love with a property and really want to make sure you get it, don't put in too low a bid.

That's the advice from the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA) which is cautioning buyers that they risk being gazumped if they bid too low.

The association has come up with fresh tips and advice for first-time buyers which include:

Before you look

Prepare your finances: it is always a good idea to have your finances in place before you start looking at properties. Approaching an agent with a 'mortgage in principle' from your lender might give you an edge over other potential buyers and the estate agents will view you as a serious buyer.

Research the local area: sometimes local housing market trends vary from the

TAMASIN COATES

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broader national trends. A good agent can help you identify trends in certain areas which can help in finding suitably priced houses for the area and sometimes even bargains.

Once a property is found always take a walk around the local area surrounding the property, check for anything that may cause annoyance like any main roads. Look at off-street parking and any planned developments as well.

During the search

Understand what is included in the purchase price: additional fees relating to white goods and removable furnishings are much more common in today's market, and may even be used as a negotiating tool. It is vital to



check the sales particulars to see what specifics are included. Generally, white goods that are integrated or plumbed in are included, but that's not always the case.

Decided to buy?

Don't bid too low: offering a substantially lower price could increase the risk of being gazumped and could

position you as a nuisance buyer who is not serious about purchasing. Make a sensible offer based on the guide price and be prepared to negotiate.

Make an offer: If you have offered the asking price ensure that the property is taken off the market immediately.

Tenants stay for longer

Tenants are now staying in one property for a record duration of 20 months, according to the latest research from the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA).

This figure is up year-on-year from an average of 19 months in the first three months of 2012. It is also the joint highest tenancy length recorded by ARLA.

Well over half of ARLA agents (56.9 per cent) are seeing more tenants looking for homes than there are properties available. According to the organisation this demand for rental properties is compounding the trend

with competition for supply discouraging many existing tenants from moving, which in turn reduces the number of vacancies on the market.

There has been a sharp drop in the number of lettings agents reporting an increase in properties coming onto the market because they can't be sold – from 42 per cent at the end of 2012, to just 29 per cent this quarter.

Ian Potter, managing director of ARLA, said: "Tenants are increasingly sitting tight in their property and either reluctant, or unable to move. This means fewer and fewer properties are freed up."



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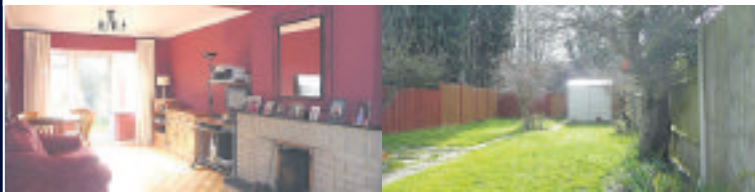
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Kingston £825,000

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Kingston £295,000

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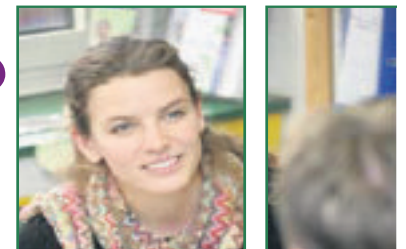
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if you would like to pass on your good wishes or a message of condolence relating to any announcement on this page visit: kingstonguardian.co.uk

Obituary Notice

RONALD NICHOLLS (New Malden)

Sadly passed away in Kingston Hospital on 17th April aged 78, after a two and a half week battle against pneumonia. His Son, former Daughter-in-Law and their three children were by his side when he passed away. Funeral will take place on Thursday 9th May at 2.20pm at Kingston Crematorium. He is now with his Wife Margaret and his Daughter Linda. He will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.
 God Bless you Dad X

RODERICK LEONARD STANTON
"Ron Stanton"
 Passed away peacefully on 14.04.2013 aged 75. Sadly missed by all the family and his daughter Nicola. Funeral to take place on Thursday 9th May at 3:30pm at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead.

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Public Notices

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON LAND ADJOINING ARRAN WAY, ESHER; LAND AT GROVE FARM, ARRAN WAY AND GRAMMERE PRIMARY SCHOOL, THE DRIVE, ESHER.

Chief Property Officer, SCC has applied to Surrey County Council for planning permission for **Erection of new single storey Primary School (630 places) and Nursery (26 places) together with provision of parking for staff (37 spaces), cycle and scooter parking with access off Arran Way; layout of outdoor play areas and sports pitches and landscaping; demolition of existing Grammere School buildings (other than caretaker's bungalow) and removal of handstanding at The Drive; alterations to Arran Way associated with provision of dedicated footpaths for proposed school.**

The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the application is situated.

Copies of the application, plans and other documents submitted with the application can be inspected at the Town Planning Department, Elmbridge Borough Council, Civic Centre, High Street, Esher Surrey, KT10 9SD, during office hours.

If you wish to make representations about this application you should write to Alan Stones, Planning Development Control Team Manager (ref. EL2013/1469), Planning & Development Group, Surrey County Council, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DY by 28 May 2013.

Email: MWCD@surreycc.gov.uk

Signed: A Stones
Planning Development Control
Team Manager
On Behalf of Surrey County
Council
Date: 2 May 2013



SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNE ELIZABETH SUTER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 'The Ritz' 27 Westdene Way Weybridge Surrey KT13 9FS, who died on 01/11/2012, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 12/07/2013, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

HENMANS FREETH LLP
5000 Oxford Business Park South
Oxford OX4 2BH T377965

JOY CICELY WISE (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Galsworthy House 117 Kingston Hill Kingston upon Thames Surrey KT2 7LX, who died on 13/01/2013, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 12/07/2013, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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**JOAN MAJOR
(Deceased)**
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 3 Riversdale Road Thames Ditton Surrey KT7 0QL, who died on 11/12/2012, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 12/07/2013, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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Contents

2. The advertiser confirms that the advertisement complies with all applicable legislation, regulations and codes of practice, including the codes supervised by the Advertising Standards Authority. We may reject or require changes to any advertisement so as to comply with legal or moral obligations placed on us or the advertiser; to avoid infringing the rights of a third party or any relevant code of practice; or to meet our published production and quality specifications.

3. The advertiser further confirms that:
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9. We will try to satisfy an advertiser's request regarding the positioning of an advertisement, but no guarantee of position can be given unless agreed by us and paid for at the rate then current.

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Onslow-Cole's up for Thruxton

New Malden motorhead Tom Onslow-Cole says he is raring to go when the British Touring Car Championship hits Thruxton this weekend.

After a good show at his favourite circuit of

Donington Park on April 21, where he drove his VW Passat CC to three point-scoring finishes, the 25-year-old, *pictured*, moves on to his second-favourite venue

He said: "I like the fast

flowing circuits and there is nothing faster in this country than Thruxton. It is a great track and we were quite strong over high-speed sections at Donington, which bodes well for Thruxton."

kingstonguardian.co.uk



Big year: David Weir

Weir talks up his down time

Kingston's wheelchair Paralympian hero David Weir is not taking his sport seriously this year after the drama of 2012.

The four-time gold medalist from the London Paralympics finished the London marathon in fifth place after missing out in the final sprint up the Mall.

However, far from making excuses, the 33-year-old admitted his preparation was lacking.

"I went straight into the marathon when maybe I had not done enough training. But I had promised my family that I would not be away so much this year," he said.

"I got back into the chair on January 8, and it was tough to get a full week's training because of the weather.

"I gave the marathon my best shot, but I won't make excuses – the other guys were better on the day.

"But I am not taking anything too seriously this year. Last year was a big year, and there was a lot of pressure on my shoulders.

"I feel like I need a year off, and do the races I want to do."

League preparations on track with double glory

by TIM ASHTON

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Kingston AC & Polytechnic Harriers sprinter Jordan Smith-Bent's preparation for the British Athletics League continued in fine style as he helped propel the club to Kinnaird and Sward Trophy glory.

While the 22-year-old did not win his 100m and 200m A races, his 10.94secs over the shorter distance to take second was just outside his personal best (10.90) and caught the eye of team manager David Barrington.

Kingston won the track-based Kinnaird trophy at Kingsmeadow on Saturday ahead of Achilles (an Oxford and Cambridge amalgamation) by 36 points.

And in a feat not seen in 20 years of the competition, Kingston completed the double, picking up the field-based Sward trophy, also ahead of Achilles, by 16 points.

Barrington said: "This was not the strongest of competitions because it is early season and some clubs have not got their strongest sides out.

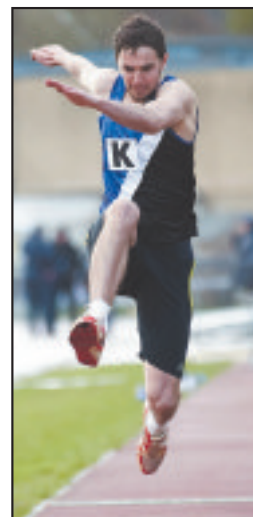
"But you can only beat who is in front of you and Kingston are to be congratulated for a great day's athletics."

He added: "Jordan



Quick out the blocks: Kingston's Adam Bellis, above, sets off in the A 400m, and, right, Chris Hall leaps to second in the A triple jump

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[Smith-Bent] will be pleased to break 11 seconds over 100m. He does not do that very often and it will stand him in good stead going into the BAL.

"Kingsmeadow is not a great track for the 100m as the track heads into the prevailing wind, so Jordan should be even more pleased."

In the field, Kingston dominating the throws with Nick Owen winning both the B discus (33.55m) and A shot (13.20m) and Chris Dack

winning the B shot (13.16m) and taking second in the A javelin (51.03m).

William Trimble won the B javelin (50.85m) and Gareth Cook won the A hammer (51.30m).

In the jumps, Chris Hall led the way taking second in the triple jump leaping 12.64m.

On the track, Chris Bannon won the combined A & B 3,000m in eight minutes, 35.81 seconds.

It was a Kingston one-two in

the 800m combined – Jonathan Darby won in 1:57.72 to pick up the Charles Leslie Trophy, while Jamie McCullagh (2:00.48) was second. Darby also went on to finish third in the combined 1,500m in 4:19.31.

In the B 100m, Tom Butcher took second clocking 11.19secs. He was also fourth in the B 200m in 22.97secs, just 0.47 seconds off top spot.

The British Athletics League starts on May 11.



Tough: Malden Wanderers' skipper Simon Crampton, left, was 15 not out in the eight-wicket cup defeat

Wanderers well whacked

Malden Wanderers crashed out of the ECB National Club Championships in the first round going down by eight wickets at home to Ealing.

Having won Sunday's toss, Wanderers skipper Simon Crampton elected to bat, but he watched his top five batsmen dismissed for just 24 runs,

before eventually being all out for 82 off 32.2 overs.

Ealing reached their target inside 18 overs and for the loss of only two wickets – both to the bowling of Tom Bartram.

Wanderers start their Premier Division campaign on May 11 at Guildford.

Williams' cup final warning

Having qualified for next season's Euro Hockey League, Surbiton still have the EHB Cup final to play this Saturday before their season is finally over, *writes Sean Cotter*.

And coach Todd Williams has not allowed his squad to rest on their laurels, especially as their opponents are his former club Hampstead & Westminster.

"Just so it is clear, this game is a priority as any final should be," he emailed them after the 5-3 play-off win over Canterbury two weeks ago that returned the Long Ditton-based club to Europe for the first time in 11 seasons.

"For anyone thinking about winding down, I'd remind you that the Euro Hockey League semi-finals are still to come in the season's calendar and so we would expect to be peaking at this time in future seasons.



International duty: Chris Grassick will miss the final

"I'd also add that Hampstead will be warming up with a weekend in Lille, playing two games against the French national side, so there should be no illusions about the seri-

ousness of their preparations.

"With some players unavailable due to international commitments and injury, our team is far from finalised. If you want to play, you need to train."

One of the injured players Williams was referring to is Scottish international Fergus Dunn who had to miss the national play-offs with a torn cruciate ligament.

Fellow Scots Chris Grassick and new cap Nicholas Parkes, who are in their nation's 18-man squad preparing for the Hockey World League from May 6, are also unavailable.

Hampstead & Westminster, have never won the cup, but, under Williams, they were the beaten finalists in two of the past three seasons.

The EHB Cup final is being hosted by Wakefield Hockey Club at 4pm.

SPORTSbrief

POOL: Victoria Heggie, a student at Kingston College, has been selected for trials for the English ladies pool team. Heggie, 29, has played international pool Gibraltar, and now plays for Essex ladies county team. She said: "I train around seven hours a week, and it has been tough juggling it with work and studying. However, I am passionate about pool, my studies and work." The trials take place in Nottingham at the end of May.

FOOTBALL: Kingstonian's Ryman Premier Division season of inconsistency ended with a disappointing 1-0 defeat at bottom of the table Hastings United. However, the Ks had a chance to end the season with some silverware on Tuesday night when they took on Bromley of the Blue Square South in the London County Cup at Imber Court. For the full report and reaction, pick up a *Surrey Comet* on Friday.

FOOTBALL: Corinthian Casuals finished 14th in Ryman League Division One South after a 1-1 home draw with Chipstead on Saturday. Bashiri Alimi grabbed the Casuals' final goal of the campaign in the first half, only for Chipstead to level with 10 minutes to go.

PARKRUN: The Kingston meeting was won by Edward Catmur of Thames Hare & Hounds in 17 minutes, 22 seconds. The women's race went to Zoe Ashcroft of 26.2 RRC in 21:19. Stragglers RC had two winners in Graham Brook at Crane Park (18:24) and Julie Holmes (24:13) at Hanley in Stoke-on-Trent.

MARTIAL ARTS: GBMAA Predatorz kids returned from the Southern Open and WKU England qualifiers in Tolworth last weekend with a haul of medals. Issie Carrol, 15, from GBMAA Cobham, led the way with three golds.

CRICKET: Worcester Park's preparations for their Surrey Championship Division Two campaign were dented by a 117-run friendly defeat to Old Rutlishians of Division Four on Saturday. The season proper starts on May 11 at home to Cranleigh. Kingstonian will begin their Division Four season with the visit of Old Rutlishians.

'I WILL NEVER BUY SHOES ANYWHERE ELSE AGAIN'

Recruitment manager Andrea Mahn had so much foot pain she could barely walk.

This fit and active 40-year-old had been suffering from Plantar Fasciitis - a painful inflammation of the tissue on the sole of the foot.

"I had treatments by an osteopath, a physiotherapist and a sports therapist but nothing eased the pain," explained Andrea.

Her job requires her to frequently walk and stand, so life was becoming unbearable. She was also unable to partake in her favourite hobby, running.

Andrea saw an advert for Foot Solutions and decided to pay them a visit. "I just turned up hoping that someone would be able to help me," she said, "and it was the best decision I have ever made."

"The staff were knowledgeable, helpful and attentive and after half an hour of tests and examinations they found a solution. It was the most fantastic service I could have imagined."

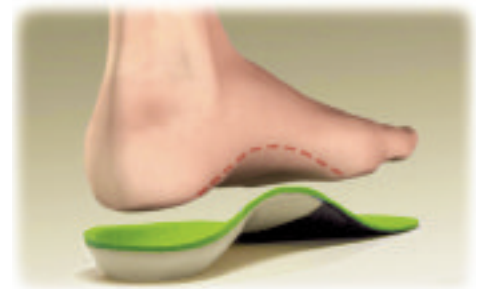
Foot Solutions provided Andrea with custom shoe inserts and a special device to help stretch her foot at night.

"The device gave me immediate relief from the pain, allowing me to sleep better and when the inserts were fitted in my shoes, it made a huge difference."

"I had faced the prospect of never being able to wear high heels again – but I can now wear them for up to 14 hours if necessary."

"I don't suffer at all now," confirmed Andrea, "I can do my job and go running without pain. I will never buy shoes anywhere else again."

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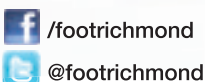
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